

## ***Surrogacy, In-Vitro Fertilization and your Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA)***

For children born in Georgia through artificial reproductive technology (ART) the following information will assist parents as they prepare to apply for their baby's CRBA and passport.

The Consular section advises U.S. citizens who are pursuing or are considering ART in Georgia to contact us at: [askconsultbilisi@state.gov](mailto:askconsultbilisi@state.gov).

It is also suggested that the topic of ART found on Travel.State.Gov be carefully reviewed: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal-considerations/us-citizenship-laws-policies/assisted-reproductive-technology.html>

### ***Overview***

A child born outside the United States to a U.S. citizen parent or parents is eligible for U.S. citizenship if the parent(s) meet the requirements for transmitting U.S. citizenship under the [Immigration and Nationality Act](#). This citizenship is recognized through a document called the **Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA)**. Children born with the reproductive assistance of surrogacy/IVF also qualify for the CRBA if a blood relationship with the U.S. citizen parent(s) is confirmed.

### ***Your CRBA - Getting Started***

- Prepare – work closely with your Reproductive provider to insure all documents are in order.
- Allow for sufficient time – a CRBA can only be applied for after the child's birth and in the country where the child was born. Be aware that an uncomplicated case can take a minimum of three to four weeks after the baby is born.
- Be in contact with the Consular section in Tbilisi. Email us [AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov](mailto:AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov)

### ***Pre Appointment Preparation***

In addition to the standard CRBA application, information regarding the ART process will be requested.

- **ART and birth documentation:**
  - Your Surrogacy Contract – Original and notarized translation
  - IVF procedure documented – Original and notarized translation
  - Hospital report at birth – Original and notarized translation
  - Local birth certificate – Original and notarized translation
- **Confirming the biological connection to your child**
  - Contact an AABB Accredited Parentage Testing Laboratories to arrange for DNA testing at: <http://www.aabb.org/sa/facilities/Pages/RTestAccrFac.aspx>
  - DNA testing carried out at the AABB's Accredited Parentage Testing Laboratories **OR** administered at the Consular section with the approved Panel Physician (kit preordered by applying parent(s)).
  - A DNA test may be performed at the time of the CRBA appointment. The DNA kit must be received by the Consular section in advance of the CRBA application and interview. The Consular section will make an appointment for the Panel Physician to administer the test. \*(See below for test procedures)
  - DNA test results can be accepted via email directly from the accredited laboratory.
  - All costs associated with testing are the responsibility of the applying parent(s).
  - Email [AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov](mailto:AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov) for all questions regarding DNA testing and to make arrangements for testing administration.

### ***Schedule an Appointment at the Consular Section***

In connection with your child's CRBA, please note that both parents\* along with the baby, must appear in front of a Consular Officer at the U.S. Embassy for the [passport application](#). After your appointment there is no further requirement for both parents to stay in Georgia while the results of DNA testing are pending.

- Schedule an appointment at the U.S. Embassy Consular section online at:  
<https://evisaforms.state.gov/acs/default.asp?postcode=TBL&appcode=1>
  - Expedited appointments may be requested after the baby is born. Please contact us at [AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov](mailto:AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov)
  - \*If one parent is not physically present at the time of the application, then a notarized [DS-3053](#) and notarized passport copy for absent parent should accompany the CRBA application.

### ***On the day of your scheduled appointment***

At the time of the appointment, parents should be prepared with the following:

#### **1. Application(s):**

- [DS-2029](#) – Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA). Completed but unsigned. (Do not sign as your oath will be taken by the Consul).
- [DS-11](#) – Passport application. Completed but unsigned (Do not sign as your oath will be taken by the Consul).
- [SS-5](#) - Social Security Number Application. Returning U.S. residents, apply in U.S. Georgian residents, we can assist preparations for you to submit child's application to directly to FPU Athens.

#### **2. Application Fees – CASH ONLY**

- CRBA Fee - \$100.00
- Passport Fee - \$115.00

#### **3. Passport Photos:**

- Two identical color passport photos, 2"x 2" (5cm x 5cm), on a white background taken within the past six months ([See our photo specifications page](#)).

#### **4. Child's Birth Certificate:**

- One original and one certified copy, with English translation.
- Parents married in the United States: Georgian law requires an Apostilled copy of the U. S. marriage certificate in order to obtain a local birth certificate.

#### **5. Proof of Parents' Citizenship:**

- American citizen parent(s): U.S. passport; or the U.S. birth certificate showing filing date and issuing office's seal; or U.S. Naturalization Certificate; or Consular Report of Birth Abroad
- Non-American citizen parent: Government issued photo I.D.

6. **Proof of parent's ability to [transmit](#) U.S. citizenship:**

- If only one parent contributes genetic material in the ART process, **citizenship transmission** is governed as an “out of wedlock” birth.
- When a child has one U.S. citizen and one alien parent, the Consular Section requires proof of the [U.S. citizen parent's extended residence in the United States](#). Such proof may be in the form of school transcripts, diplomas, or employment verification. If these aren't available, records such as rental agreements, house payments, tax returns, utility bills and so on can be used.
- **For children born out of wedlock to a U.S. citizen father**, the father must formally acknowledge parentage and agree to support the child through age 18 as well as fulfill the U.S. [physical presence](#) requirement as stated above.
- Contact us at [AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov](mailto:AskConsulTbilisi@state.gov) if you have questions about citizenship transmission requirements.

***\*DNA Sample Collection Procedures***

➤ Preparation for DNA testing requires the following:

- A photocopy of a Picture ID/Passport of parent(s) tested
- Child's original birth certificate with copy/translated and notarized into English.
- 5cm x 5cm photo of child
- 5cm x 5cm photo of parent(s) being tested

***\*Timelines***

CRBA and passport processing typically takes 10 business days **after** DNA test results are received by the Consular section. Once approved, both documents are printed in the U.S. and returned to the Consular section via DHL. Therefore, **parent(s) should be prepared to stay in Georgia approximately 3-4 weeks from the time the child is born**. There is no expedited service for CRBA processing. Passports frequently arrive in advance of the CRBA. If families elect to return to the U.S. in advance of the Consular Section receiving the CRBA, parents may arrange and prepay for the CRBA to be forwarded to their home address.

Please be aware that while the Consular section makes every effort to expeditiously process CRBA's, delays can and do occur. Be prepared and plan ahead!

***\*Resources***

The U.S. Embassy Georgia website provides further information concerning [CRBA](#)s and [passports](#). For general information go to: <https://ge.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/>

State Department/ Consular Affairs website also provides important information on [CRBA](#)s and [passports](#). It is also an excellent resource for Americans abroad: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en.html>